

EAST GREENBUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUDGET REVIEW & ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2017

1. Call to Order – 7:35 p.m.

2. Attendance

BRAC: Mr. Khan, Mr. Lento, Mr. Pratt, Ms. Printup, Mr. Romanowski

Admin: Ms. Belmont, Mr. Edson, Mr. Simons

Board: Ms. Taylor

Guests: Mr. Dowds, Town of Schodack Supervisor and Mr. Lacivita, Town of North Greenbush Planning Board Chair

3. Updates from Towns of Schodack and North Greenbush

Mr. Dowds distributed a brief summary of housing developments in Schodack. There are no new subdivision projects for 2017. Mr. Dowds reviewed the delay in the construction of the Questar Career & Technical Center, which will not open in summer 2018 as originally expected. There is the possibility for development of the Red Oaks property in the future.

Mr. Lacivita distributed a summary of housing developments in North Greenbush. The developments are in the Bell Top School attendance area. Mr. Lacivita also discussed commercial developments along route 4, some in the North Greenbush Common School District. He noted the housing developments in North Greenbush Common could have an impact on enrollment, particularly students attending other public schools in grades 2-12.

4. Strategic Planning and Board of Education Goals

Mr. Simons shared an overview of District past performance, notably high achievement, excellence in teaching, and positive community support. The Superintendent said the 2016 graduation rate was 92%, and the District placed sixth among approximately eighty-four schools in the Capital Region. He shared positive test scores in grades 3 to 8 and on Regents Exams.

Mr. Simons presented a chart for managing complex change. He said all the components need to be in place to have effective change: vision, skills, incentives, resources, action plan, and change.

The Superintendent explained that technology will be a focus for the future, along with Smart Schools implementation, differentiated academic

support, workplace learning and mentoring, multiple measures of achievement, and establishment of a curriculum that is innovative, engaging, and rigorous. He said that teams of teachers are engaged in curriculum mapping to support the future.

Mr. Simons shared a Forbes survey of the top skills that employers seek, which include problem solving, technology literate, communication, planning, and ability to analyze quantitative data.

The Superintendent presented the Board of Education adopted goals for 2017-2018. The goals became the basis for a strategic plan with action items. Mr. Simons reviewed action items related to Career and Technical Education, program reviews, professional development, enrollment projections, long-range financial planning, capital projects, collaboration, and safety. The action items will be presented to all staff with an opportunity to provide input through a survey tool. Mr. Simons advised that the Committee for Curriculum Study and education committee have changed focus and encouraged more participation this year.

Mr. Simons stated he is working as a mentor with a high school senior who interns in Central Office each week. The intern is working on correspondence to the federal government on potential cuts to education and revision of the tax code.

Mr. Romanowski asked for the impact of test refusal data on the test performance shown. He also requested more information, if available, on the mastery levels for subjects not shown.

5. Adjournment - 9:18 p.m.